

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 08292 011843Z

64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /097 W

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R 011742Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4073

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VE, US, MX

SUBJ: PRESS CITES COMMITTEE FOR OPEN SOCIETY: "U.S.

MIGHT INVADE VENEZUELA"

1. MEXICO CITY PRESS, INCLUDING EXCELSIOR AND GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED NACIONAL, HAVE PRINTED LATEST LETTER FROM WILLIAM HIGGS, DIRECTOR OF SUBJECT COMMITTEE, TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. THIS LETTER EXPRESSES HIGGS' "FEARS" THAT THE U.S. IS PLANNING TO INVADE VENEZUELA. (ASSUME TEXT AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT.) STORIES WERE ON PAGE 3 OF MOST PAPERS BUT PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED.
2. DESPITE ABSURDITY OF HIGGS' ALLEGATIONNS MEXICAN (AND POSSIBLY OTHER LA) PRESS PROMPTLY, PROMINENTLY, AND INVARIABLY DISSEMINATE, WITH NO SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE OVER TRUE STANDING OF HIGGS AND HIS COMMITTEE.
3. VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TODAY CALLED AMBASSADOR JOVA EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER HIGGS' LETTER.
4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT SUBJECT COMMITTEE IS, IN EFFECT, HIGGS AND ITS "VIEWS" ARE THOSE OF HIGGS. SOME LOCAL MEDIA MAY CONFUSE COMMITTEE WITH COMMON CAUSE OR OTHER ORGANIZA-

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TIONS REFLECTING SIGNIFICANT SECTOR OF U.S. OPINION.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT HIGGS' LETTERS HAVE SOME IMPACT ON MEXICAN OPINION AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO COUNTER HIS EXTRAVAGANCES WITHOUT CREATING IMPRESSION USG IS TRYING TO STIFLE EXPRESSION OF OPINION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY AGAIN REQUESTS INFORMATION ON HIGGS AND HIS COMMITTEE, E.G., EXTENT OF MEMBERSHIP, IF ANY, WHICH MIGHT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO INFLUENTIAL NEWSMEN, IN EFFORT TO PLACE HIGGS' VIEWS IN PERSPECTIVE. SUGGEST THAT SIMILAR BRIEFING MIGHT ALSO BE GIVEN INFORMALLY TO SELECTED WIRE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON, IN ORDER THAT THEIR REPORTS MIGHT ALSO BE PLACED IN BETTER PERSPECTIVE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 01 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: PRESS CITES COMMITTEE FOR OPEN SOCIETY: "U.S. MIGHT INVADE VENEZUELA"
TAGS: PFOR, VE, US, MX, COMMITTEE FOR OPEN SOCIETY, (HIGGS, WILLIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005